CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A hair growth stimulant comprising at least one chromene compound represented by Structural Formula (1) as an active ingredient:

$$R_1$$
 R_2
 R_3

wherein R_1 and R_2 are each independently -H, -OH, or -OR wherein R is a C_{1-4} alkyl group; R_3 and R_4 are each independently -H, or a C_{1-4} alkyl group; R_5 and R_6 are each independently -H, a C_{1-4} alkyl group, or an optionally substituted phenyl group; and X is -CH(OH) R_7 , or -C(=O) R_7 wherein R_7 is a C_{1-4} alkyl group or an optionally substituted phenyl group.

- 2. (Original) The hair growth stimulant according to Claim 1, wherein the chromene compound represented by Structural Formula (1) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of methylripariochromene A (6-acetyl-7,8-dimethoxy-2,2-dimethylchromene), acetovanillochromene (6-acetyl-8-methoxy-2,2-dimethylchromene), and orthochromene A (6-(1-hydroxyethyl)-7,8-dimethoxy-2,2-dimethylchromene).
- 3. (Currently amended) The \underline{A} hair-restoring preparation for external use comprising the hair growth stimulant of Claim 1 or 2.
- 4. (Currently amended) The \underline{A} hair-restoring preparation for oral use comprising the hair growth stimulant of Claim 1 or 2.

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- 5. (Currently amended) The A hair-restoring food comprising the hair growth stimulant of Claim 1 or 2.
- 6. (Currently amended) A method for preparing a hair growth stimulant containing at least one chromene compound represented by Structural Formula (1) as an active ingredient,

$$R_1$$
 R_2
 R_6
 R_5
 R_4
 R_3

wherein R_1 and R_2 are each independently -H, -OH, or -OR wherein R is a C_{1-4} alkyl group; R_3 and R_4 are each independently -H, or a C_{1-4} alkyl group; R_5 and R_6 are each independently -H, a C_{1-4} alkyl group, or an optionally substituted phenyl group; and X is -CH(OH) R_7 , or -C(=O) R_7 wherein R_7 is a C_{1-4} alkyl group or an optionally substituted phenyl group; the method comprising steps (i) and (ii):

- (i) obtaining a chromene compound-containing extract by contacting a solvent with at least one plant selected from the group consisting of plants of the genus *Orthosiphon* in the family Lamiaceae, plants of the genus *Eupatorium* in the family Asteraceae, and plants of the genus Stevia in the family Asteraceae; and
- (ii) isolating a chromene compound represented by Structural Formula (1) from the extract obtained in (i).
- 7. (Original) The method for preparing a hair growth stimulant according to Claim 6, wherein the chromene compound represented by Structural Formula (1) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of methylripariochromene A (6-acetyl-7,8-dimethoxy-2,2-dimethylchromene), acetovanillochromene (6-acetyl-8-methoxy-2,2-dimethylchromene), and orthochromene A (6-(1-hydroxyethyl)-7,8-dimethoxy-2,2-dimethylchromene).

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8. (Original) A hair-restoring method comprising the step of contacting an effective amount of a hair growth stimulant containing at least one chromene compound represented by Structural Formula (1) as an active ingredient with hair tissue:

$$R_{1}$$
 R_{2}
 R_{1}
 R_{2}
 R_{3}

wherein R_1 and R_2 are each independently -H, -OH, or -OR wherein R is a C_{1-4} alkyl group; R_3 and R_4 are each independently -H, or a C_{1-4} alkyl group; R_5 and R_6 are each independently -H, a C_{1-4} alkyl group, or an optionally substituted phenyl group; and X is -CH(OH) R_7 , or -C(=O) R_7 wherein R_7 is a C_{1-4} alkyl group or an optionally substituted phenyl group.